

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-45 were originally filed in this patent application. In the first office action, claims 12, 14-16 and 18-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,418,451 to Maimone in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,529,901 to Chadhuri. Claims 1-11 and 20-45 were allowed. Claims 13 and 17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if properly rewritten in independent form. The Examiner maintained the rejection in the second office action. In response to the second office action, claim 12 was amended and claim 13 was cancelled. In the latest office action, claims 1-10, 12-27 and 29-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,745,176 to Probert in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,226,161 to Khoyi. Claims 11, and 43-45 were allowed and claim 28 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if properly rewritten in independent form. Claims 1-12 and 14- 45 are currently pending.